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## ABSTRACT

A molding base paper used for forming paper vessels such as a cup or tray for foods and various industrial products is disclosed which satisfies the following conditions (1) to (4):

- (1) a tensile strength (JIS-P 8113) of at least 2.0 kN/m,  
(2) an elongation at break (JIS-P 8113) of at least 1.5 %,  
(3) a critical compression stress, defined by the following formula, in the range of 1 to 10 MPa:

critical compression stress =  $A/B$

wherein A represents the compression strength determined by JIS-P 8126, and B represents the area of a specimen, as set forth in JIS-P 8126 in the determination of the compression strength, and

- (4) an amount of compression deformation, caused by applying compression stress of 20 kgf/cm<sup>2</sup> in the thickness direction, of at least 10 %, wherein the paper vessels are prepared by controlling the water content of the molding base paper at 10 to 20 % and then drawing the molding base paper at 100 to 150°C.